

# Thornton Creek Bridges Study

30% DESIGN

Winter 2020

## COMMUNITY-INFORMED DESIGN

Since the spring of 2019, we've held drop-in sessions, conducted community briefings, and gathered survey responses to get feedback throughout early design.

Comments and suggestions from the community informed the following elements of the conceptual design alternatives:

- Landscaping and planting vegetation
- Adding sidewalks and curb ramps
- Improving channel flow
- Bike safety improvements
- Increasing bridge widths
- Replacing existing bridges
- Restructuring roadways

Most of those who commented said they use more than one of the bridges daily and that walking and driving are the most common ways they get around. The 2 most important priorities were protecting natural resources and the Thornton Creek channel, and adding pedestrian improvements.

## THORNTON CREEK BRIDGE STUDY: FAQ

**Q:** Why are you replacing the bridges?

**A:** While still safe to use, the bridges are showing signs of deterioration and have been determined to be near the end of their useful life. Options for replacement or rehabilitation are being evaluated so that the bridges can be made useful for many years to come.

**Q:** When does construction begin, and will there be impacts to my home?

**A:** We're in the early design stage (30%) of this project, and while replacement or rehabilitation options are being identified, funding for future phases (60%, 90%, final design and construction) has not yet been secured.

Should this project move into construction, impacts should be anticipated along the property lines adjacent to the project sites. Throughout the phases before construction, advance notification of opportunities to provide feedback will be provided.

**Q:** What happens next?

**A:** Currently, we're funded only through 30% design. The final planning study will be used to help plan for funding needed for future bridge replacements.

**Q:** Will we be notified in advance of the next phases?

**A:** Yes. We're committed to working with all project neighbors and stakeholders. If the Thornton Creek Bridges Study advances to the next phase, we'll reach out and keep you informed.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS PROJECT, PLEASE VISIT OUR PROJECT WEBSITE:

[www.seattle.gov/transportation/thornton](http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/thornton)

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE CONTACT:

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## PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Thornton Creek Bridges Study explored rehabilitation and replacement options for 4 bridges in northeast Seattle. The bridges each carry thousands of vehicles per day across the Thornton Creek channel and are, on average, more than 65 years old.

All bridges in the city are maintained for public safety and periodically monitored. While still safe to use, these bridges are showing signs of deterioration and have been determined to be near the end of their useful life.

The primary goal of this study was to identify feasible solutions that address long-term multimodal transportation demand, such as biking, walking, driving, and riding transit. The study was conducted as part of the 9-year Levy to Move Seattle approved by Seattle voters in 2015 and is currently funded through 30% design.

## STUDY BACKGROUND

Because the existing structures are functionally obsolete, feasible rehabilitation and replacement options needed to be identified to ensure the long-term use of these

## PROJECT AREA

Located in the Matthews Beach neighborhood of northeast Seattle, the 4 Thornton Creek bridges studied include:

- NE 110th St Bridge (105)
- 39th Ave NE Bridge (115)
- NE 105th St Bridge (104)
- 45th Ave NE Bridge (109)



structures. Over an 8-month period, bridge alternatives were evaluated considering multimodal transportation needs, short- and long-term residential impacts,

waterflow capacity, environmental impacts, bridge maintenance, and cost. Based upon these criteria, replacement is the most feasible option for all 4 bridges.

## PROJECT INFORMATION AND CONTACT

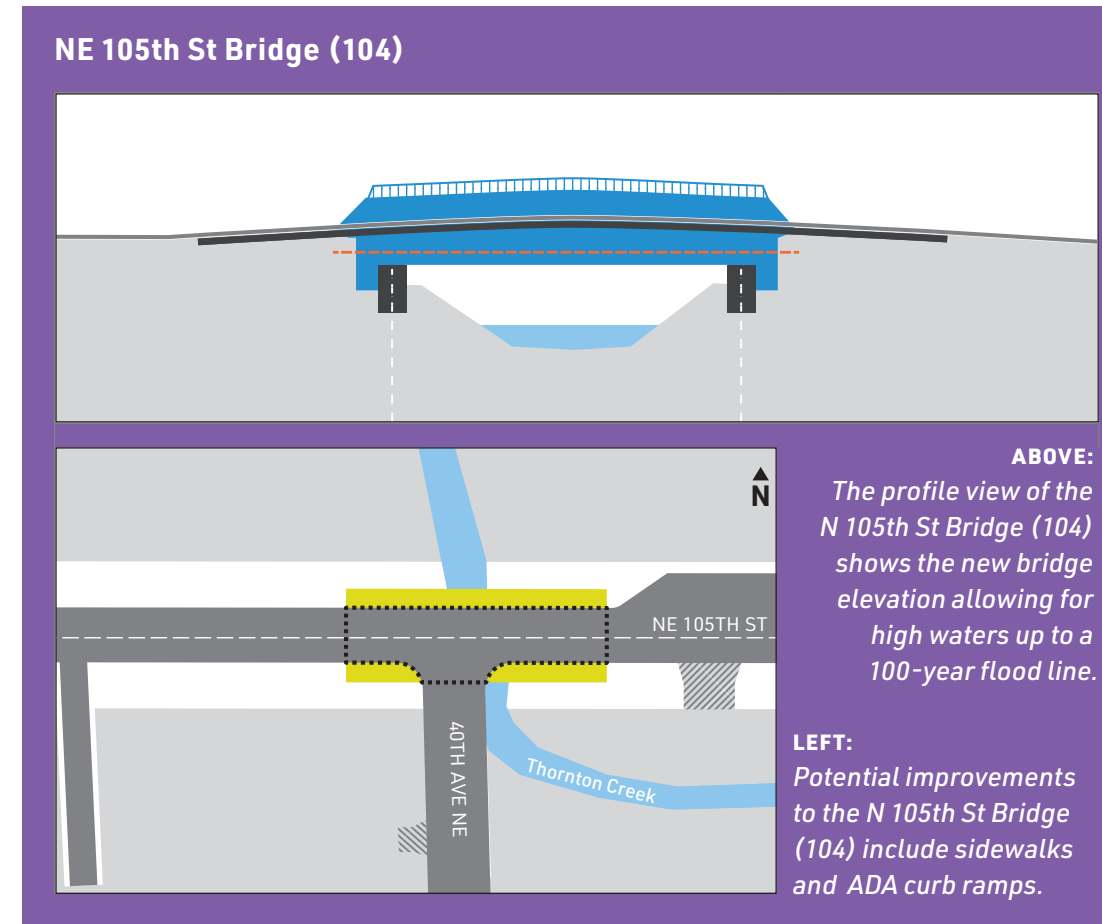
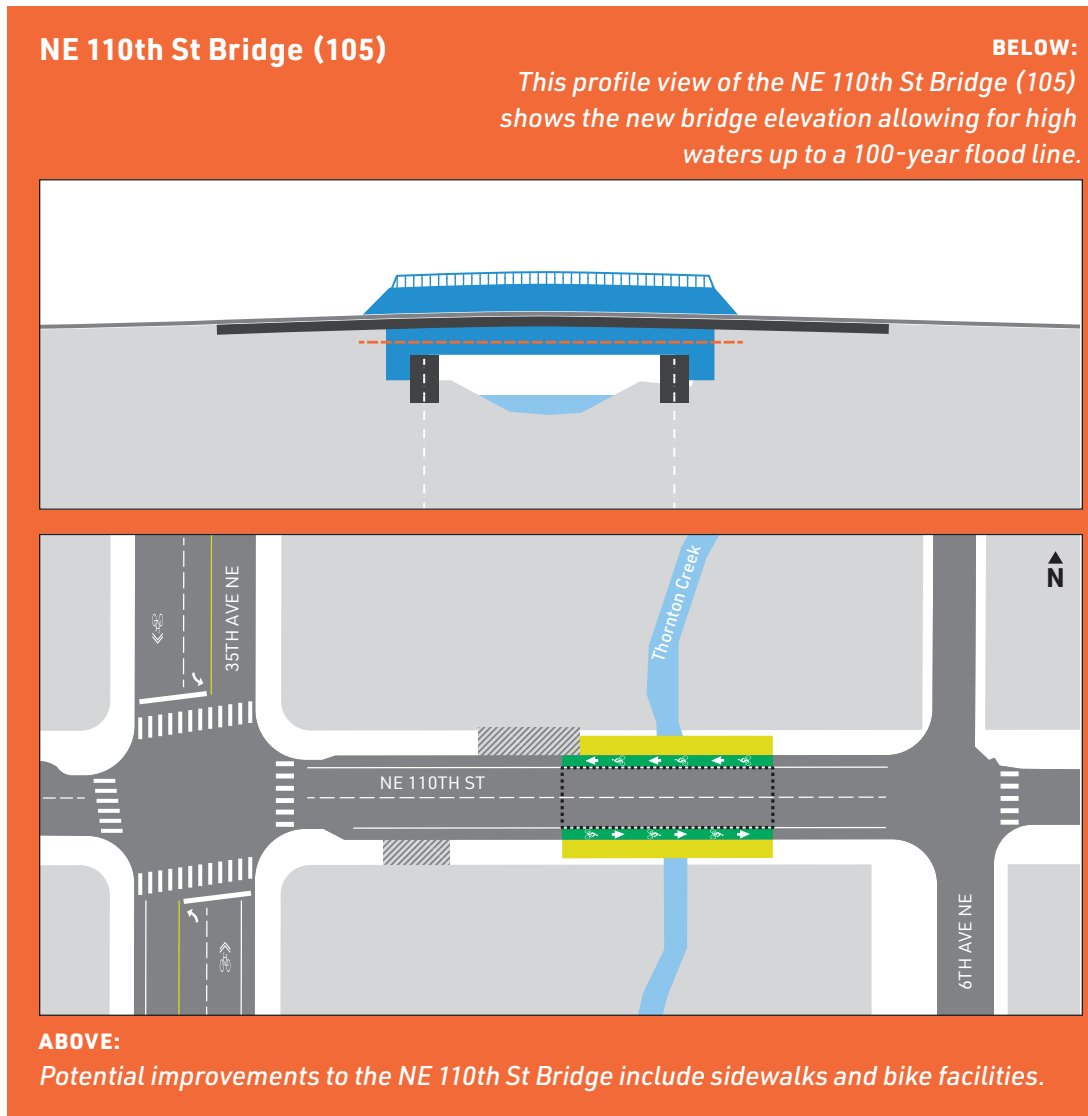
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**CONCEPTUAL DESIGN ALTERNATIVES**

The conceptual design alternatives will improve multimodal transportation by replacing traffic barriers and adding sidewalks, ADA compliant curb ramps, and landscaping. These alternatives will also better accommodate all modes of transportation. The channel and creek slope for Thornton Creek will also be improved as part of the project.

The images shown on these pages are potential alternatives for the future.



**LEGEND**

**PROFILE GRAPHICS:**

- Top of roadway
- Bridge with pedestrian railing
- Thornton Creek / ordinary high water
- 100-year flood elevation

**AERIAL VIEW GRAPHICS:**

- Proposed bridge
- Thornton Creek
- Bike facility
- Improved sidewalks
- Driveway

